

DWIGHT F. RITTER, ESQ. (STATE BAR #127030)  
RITTER & ASSOCIATES  
2869 INDIA STREET  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92103  
(619) 296-0123

**FILED**  
DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM

OCT 19 2007 *hbc*

**JEANNE G. QUINATA**  
Clerk of Court

Attorney for Plaintiffs  
ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE TERRITORY OF GUAM

TCW SPECIAL CREDITS, et al.	)	Case No. 96-00055
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	NOTICE OF LIEN
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
FISHING VESSEL CHLOE Z,	)	
et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES, AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD,  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Ritter & Associates and Dougherty &  
Hildre, APC have a specific lien against any and all proceeds in  
this matter, relating to compensation received by ROBERT MATOS  
and SLOBODAN PRANJIC, including, but not limited to,  
settlements, judgments, prejudgments interest and post-judgment  
interest, and any other compensation decided by this Court.

Ritter & Associates and Doherty & Hildre APC have  
represented ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC under a  
contingency fee contract since approximately 1991. During these  
16+ years, Ritter & Associates and Dougherty & Hildre APC have

ORIGINAL

1  
2 engaged in extensive pretrial litigation, tried four cases  
3 before the District Court, participated in a post-appeal  
4 evidentiary hearing, represented ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN  
5 PRANJIC four times before the Ninth Circuit and one time before  
6 the United States Supreme Court.  
7

8 On or about September 6, 2007, Ritter & Associates received  
9 notice of a letter from ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC (dated  
10 September 4, 2007) discharging Ritter & Associates and selecting  
11 attorney Jeffrey A. Cook in Guam as their new counsel. This  
12 letter also indicated Ritter & Associates should communicate  
13 with Banning, Micklow and Bull regarding documents related to  
14 their cases. Ritter & Associates is diligently working to  
15 transmit all appropriate information to Banning, Micklow & Bull,  
16 including matters which are still pending before both the  
17 District Court and the Ninth Circuit in these cases.

18 Ritter & Associates and Dougherty & Hildre, APC have a lien  
19 in the amount of the reasonable value of their services or the  
20 established contingency fee which is due immediately upon the  
21 occurrence of any contingency contemplated by the retainer  
22 agreements signed by ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC. In  
23 addition, Ritter & Associates and Dougherty & Hildre, APC claim  
24 a lien for the full amount of costs, expenses, and advances made  
25 on behalf of MATOS and PRANJIC over the past 16+ years, which  
26 currently is at least \$ 813,214.19 and includes costs advanced  
27 by Dougherty & Hildre APC.

28 Documents which support the lien for attorney's fees and

1  
2 costs, expenses, advances, etc., have been or will be  
3 transmitted to Banning, Micklow & Bull.  
4

5 **Ritter and Associates request notice and the opportunity to**  
6 **be heard, prior to any distribution of funds from the Court's**  
7 **Registry.**

8 Respectfully submitted:

9 RITTER & ASSOCIATES

10 Dated: 10/12, 2007



11  
12 DWIGHT F. RITTER, Esq.  
13 Attorney for Plaintiffs,  
14 ROBERT MATOS and  
15 SLOBODAN PRANJIC  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28